

# BULLETIN

of the  
MAHONING COUNTY  
MEDICAL SOCIETY

*Volume XLVII*

MARCH, 1977

*Number 3*



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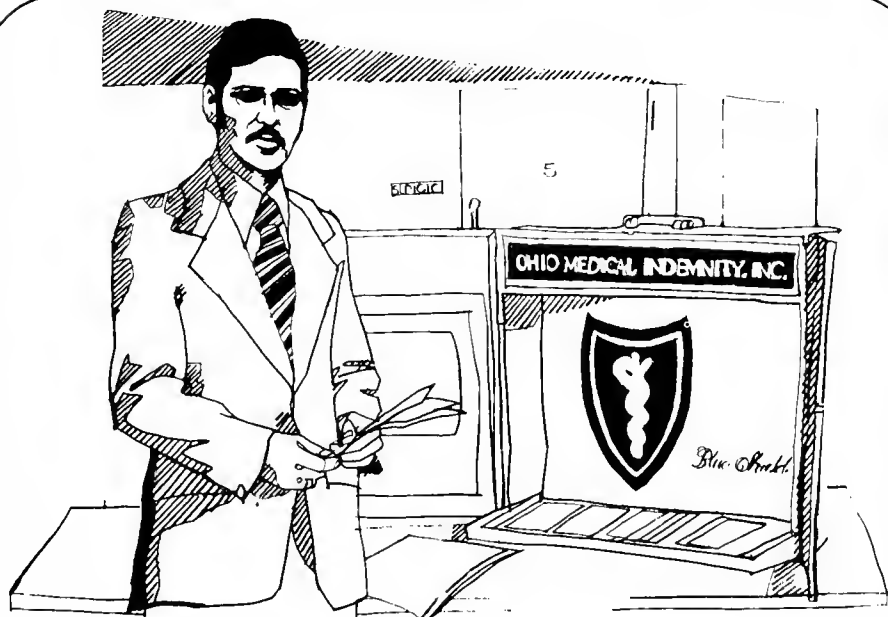
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## MAHONING COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS — 1977

Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday
Jan. 18	Mar. 15	May 24	Sept. 20	Nov. 15	Dec. 20

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## *From the Desk of the President*



### **WHO SHOULD PRESCRIBE?**

Who should prescribe for your patients, you or a pharmacist?

A major effort is being mounted in the Ohio State Legislature to repeal Ohio's anti-drug-substitution law. Senate Bill 45 and House Bill 151, if passed, would allow a pharmacist to substitute a "generically equivalent" drug for the specific medication that you prescribe for your patient, without informing you of the change. Even if you write "dispense as written" or "D.A.W." *in your own handwriting*, the pharmacist would still be able to substitute a generic if it was manufactured by the same company that made your brand-name drug.

This proposal may seem rather benign to you since for the most part you could still order a brand-name drug by writing "D.A.W." on your prescription. However, this is just Step One. Kentucky passed a similar law in 1972. Nothing much happened. The pharmacists continued as before to dispense brand-name drugs if prescribed. This apparently upset the politicians and the consumerists to no end, because in 1976 the law was amended to say that the pharmacists "*shall*" (not "*may*") select the lowest priced therapeutically equivalent drug." The Attorney General of Kentucky has written to all pharmacists in the State warning them that they are liable for violation of this law, with fines up to \$500.

If you agree with me that the person best qualified to judge what drugs should be prescribed for a patient is the patient's own physician and that substitution laws are dangerous to our patients, then we must work hard to keep such legislation from becoming law. The OSMA is working hard on the matter, but we must help on a local level.

I believe each of us must become knowledgeable about the facts concerning equivalents and make our views known to our local legislators. In the near future your Society will try to obtain the views of all of our members by means of a questionnaire. Then we will convey our thoughts to our State senators and representatives.

Please give this problem serious consideration. You will be hearing more about it soon.

—J. James Anderson, M.D.  
President



# BULLETIN

## of the Mahoning County Medical Society

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July and August.

Volume XLVII

MARCH, 1977



Number 3

The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

### EDITOR

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John C. Melnick, M.D.

James A. Lambert, M.D.

Jack Schreiber, M.D.

## Editorial

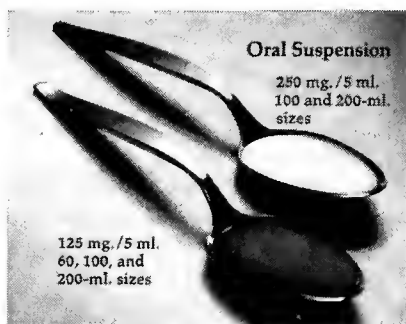
In our last editorial, I attempted to examine some of the more common factors responsible for the ever increasing costs of in-patient medical care. One must not ignore, however, the fact that practices within our individual offices are also playing a significant role in medical cost acceleration.

One such factor is the universal concern on the part of the physician regarding malpractice. In past decades, the usual treatment of a patient in the office was based upon an adequate history and physical examination with assimilation of this accumulated information into a tenable working diagnosis which, in the vast majority of cases, led to a proper, relatively inexpensive solution to the medical problem. This simplistic approach is difficult to practice at the present time in an environment where malpractice has now become a household word. Consequently, the use of chemical and bacteriologic studies, for confirmation of one's clinical impression, has greatly increased in our out-patient facilities. Such studies, some of which are unnecessary but instead purely defensive in nature, are to some extent responsible for skyrocketing out-patient costs. These studies, however, are not universally initiated by the physician himself, but on the contrary, they are frequently demanded by a medically sophisticated public who, because of extensive third party payments, frequently do not directly incur the cost of the excessive and redundant laboratory studies.

We as physicians must personally take the initiative for controlling medical expenses within our individual offices. We must resist the temptation to practice purely defensive medicine with heavy reliance upon laboratory data in the face of common disorders, even though there will frequently be external pressure from patients to do so. In the face of increasing pressure from a malpractice conscious public, we must continue to use our basic knowledge to its fullest to give the public quality care at a cost which we all can afford.

—A. Reed Hoffmaster, M.D.  
Editor

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## IMPORTANT BUSINESS AT MARCH MEETING

Two constitutional amendments and an assessment are to be decided at the March 15th meeting of the Mahoning County Medical Society at the Youngstown Club.

The membership will be asked to vote to establish an "Emeritus Membership" classification; to provide regulations for reinstatement of members; and to decrease the Welfare Fund assessment.

Dan Becker, president of Gold Cross Ambulance Co., will be the speaker and will present important recent changes in laws governing ambulance operation in Youngstown.

Wives (or husbands) of members are invited to attend. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., preceded by a social period beginning at 6:00 p.m. Reservations may be made at the Medical Society office.

### CME REMINDER

The need for 150 hours of continuing medical education is now in effect, and all physicians must complete their 150 hours between now and Dec. 31, 1979 in order to reregister their medical license in 1980. This is a legal requirement.

Extensive information has been published in *The Ohio State Medical Journal*. Possibly the best article to save is the one containing the "Log of Continuing Medical Education Activity," which appeared in the December, 1976 issue beginning on page 724.

## ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE IS MARCH 26

The one big social function of the Medical Society and the Auxiliary, the annual dinner-dance, is planned for Saturday, March 26 at the Youngstown Country Club. Mrs. Robert Barton, Auxiliary president, promises that this year's affair will be in the tradition of the gracious social functions of the past.

Dinner will be served at 8:00 p.m., preceded by a cocktail hour beginning at 7:00. Music for dancing will be provided by the Joe Ranalli orchestra. Invitations have been sent to all members. Reservations may be made with Mrs. John J. Buckley.

Mrs. Buckley and Mrs. S. W. Chiasson are co-chairmen. Their committee includes Mrs. James Dallis, Mrs. Nicholas J. Garritano, Mrs. C. Conner White and Mrs. Barton.

Those who have attended past dinner-dances will look forward with anticipation to March 26th. New members are urged to be there and take part in the social life of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

## STUDENT LOAN APPLICATIONS SOLICITED

The Mahoning County Medical Society Foundation wants applications from medical students for loans which will be made available at the 1977 annual meeting of the Foundation's appointing committee.

Foundation regulations state that an applicant must have completed one year of medical school, must be a resident of Mahoning or Trumbull County and must be willing to submit a financial statement.

In 1976, three loans of \$500 each were made. To date, 16 medical students have received loans from the Foundation. Through reinvestment of Foundation funds, the committee anticipates that it will be able to make larger or more loans in the near future.

## PHYSICIAN ADVERTISING DEFINED

It has been established by custom that newspaper advertising by physicians shall be of a specific size, which is 2 columns wide by 2 inches high. The size has been approved by the council of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

### SAMPLE AD SHOWING THE APPROVED SIZE

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It is customary and approved for ads to run three successive days in the newspaper.

## COUNCIL SUPPORTS AMA MEMBERSHIP

Council is recommending and urging that all members of the Mahoning County Medical Society become members of the American Medical Association. A second billing, specifically for AMA dues, was sent out by the Medical Society office in February. A third bill will be sent next month to those members who have not responded at that time.

## COMPOSITE DEADLINE IS MARCH 15

The second composite photo of Medical Society members, which was authorized by Council two months ago, will be assembled to be presented to the three hospital staff rooms as soon as possible after March 15th.

The deadline date was set in order to give everyone time to have a photo taken and submit it in triplicate to the Medical Society office. Members are reminded that photos must conform with the specification that the head size be 1½ inches.

The purpose of the second composite is to enable all doctors who did not have the opportunity to be in the first composite to still have photos in the staff rooms if they so desire.

## OSMA MEETING IN MAY

It's not too early to make your hotel reservations for the 1977 OSMA Annual Meeting in Columbus. This year's meeting dates are listed as May 14-18 due to special seminars scheduled for Saturday. A hotel reservation blank is printed in the February OSMA *Journal*, page 101.

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Do you have a common drug dispensing supply with another doctor or doctors? Be advised the state drug laws require that you be licensed by The Ohio Board of Pharmacy if your drug stock is owned by the corporation or if you dispense from a common drug stock along with any other doctor or doctors. Refer to Ohio Revised Code 4729.51 (B). A license application may be obtained from the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, 180 East Broad St., Suite 1126, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Caution — if you dispense drugs, Public Law 91-601 Section 4-B (A Federal Consumer Protection Act) requires that prescription drug products dispensed must be packaged in waterproof, child resistant, safety enclosure containers, with only one drug product per container. A practitioner legally may make the judgment not to dispense the medication in a safety container. However, this is a "judgment", and it could be a costly one if prudent management isn't exercised (example, to a household where children could have access to the medication).

Still going to dispense? See 3719:08-B — any dispensed RX drugs requires a label to be affixed to the outside of the container which states: the name and address of the practitioner, the name of the patient, the date, directions, the proprietary or general name of the drug dispensed and its strength, if any. If the drug dispensed is a federally controlled drug schedule two through five, the following must also be labeled: "Caution — Federal law prohibits the transfer of this drug to any person other than the person to whom it was prescribed." Any medication not properly packaged or labeled is, by law, misbranded by the dispenser.

Who can "dispense" drugs? Only a medical practitioner or a pharmacist. No clerks, technicians, nor nurses. 4729:5-25(a) defines dispensing.

—Douglas D. Smith  
Ohio State Board of Pharmacy

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Get your annual check-up • Is it time to renew your driver's license?

**March 17**

P. Soleimani  
J. N. Brucoli

**March 18**

K. E. Camp  
P. A. Dobson

**March 22**

F. A. Friedrich

**March 23**

D. J. Lambert

**March 24**

R. Roland

**March 27**

R. L. Gilliland

**March 29**

C. J. Fisher  
L. N. Green  
F. C. Tiberio

**March 30**

C. M. Lee

**March 31**

P. B. Cestone  
E. F. Sabado

**April 1**

P. E. Krupko

**April 3**

B. A. Slabochova

**April 4**

R. S. Richards

**April 5**

L. Bloomberg  
S. K. Garg

**April 8**

T. N. Detesco

**April 9**

A. Z. Rabinowitz

**April 10**

R. R. Miller  
J. J. Anderson  
J. Mehta

**April 11**

R. J. Cuttica

**April 12**

A. B. Cinelli

**April 13**

R. J. Heaver

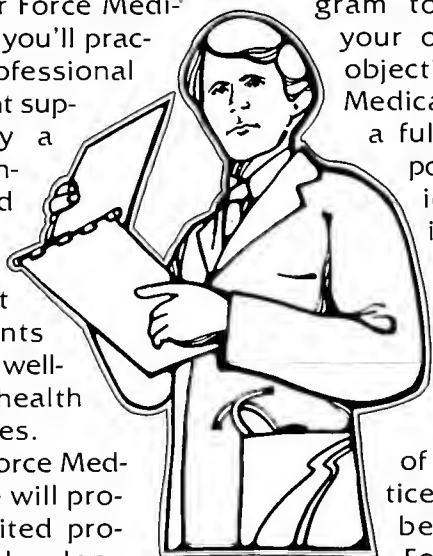
**April 15**

J. E. Micht

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Canfield Rd.  
Youngstown, O. 44512



Daniel W. Handel, M.D.  
Dermatology - St. E.  
Office: 25 N. Canfield-  
Niles Rd.  
Youngstown, O. 44515



Paul D. Bunn, M.D.  
Endocrinology - Y.H.A.  
Office: South Unit -  
Y.H.A.  
Youngstown, O. 44501



George F. Hromyak,  
Jr., M.D.  
Diagnostic Radiology -  
Y. H. A.  
Office: 1027 Boardman-  
Canfield Rd.  
Youngstown, O. 44512



Joseph P. Cleary, M.D.  
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Y.H.A.  
Office: Home Savings  
& Loan Bldg.  
Youngstown, O. 44503



J. Fred Johnson, M.D.  
Pediatric Radiology -  
Y.H.A.  
Office: North Unit,  
Y. H. A.  
Youngstown, O. 44501



Robert P. Cuttiga, M.D.  
Orthopaedic Surgery -  
Y.H.A.  
Office: 6470 Tippe-  
canoe Rd.  
Canfield, O. 44406



Steven M. Kalasky, M.D.  
Pediatric Neurology -  
St. E.  
Office: 997 Boardman-  
Canfield Rd.  
Youngstown, O. 44512



Ludwig M. Deppisch,  
M.D.  
Pathology - Y.H.A.  
Office: North Unit,  
Y.H.A.  
Youngstown, O. 44501



Prabhudas R. Lakhani,  
M.D.  
Internal Medicine -  
St. E.  
Office: 1005 Belmont  
Youngstown, O. 44504



Anand G. Garg, M.D.  
Neurosurgery - Y.H.A.  
Office: 833 Boardman-  
Canfield Rd.  
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Bruce R. Mirvis, M.D.  
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tric Allergy - St. E.  
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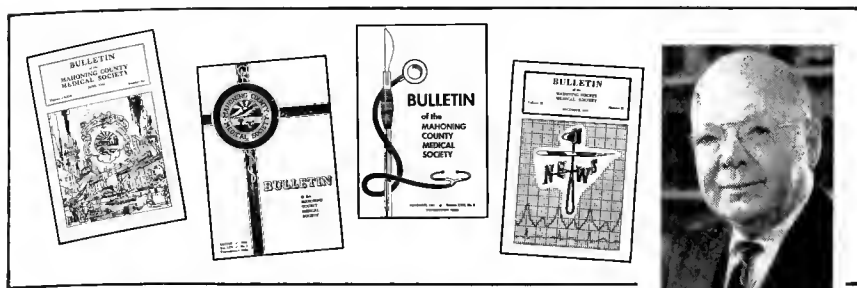
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## From the Bulletin

### FORTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1937

W. G. MacLachlan of the University of Pittsburgh told the Society that Pneumonia was still Captain of the Men of Death and the outlook for its control was gloomy.

The new revised Constitution was published in that issue to be voted on at the March meeting. It provided for incorporation of the Society and made the *BULLETIN* the official publication to give required legal notice of meetings to the members.

President Fuzy urged the newspapers to stop publishing advertisements of "Men's Specialists", "Dental Specialists", "Cancer Cures" and other nostrums. Gustafson was still going around to schools and clubs talking about "Syphilis". Dr. Poling was concerned about the lack of facilities for care of surgical emergencies in patients with contagious disease.

### THIRTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1947

Dr. Bill Allsop had an article on the new Lincoln Avenue Hospital, the first hospital in the U.S. owned and operated by Alcoholics Anonymous. It is still operating although the old building has been demolished to make way for the expansion of Youngstown State University.

A survey conducted by the *BULLETIN* showed that most hospitalization plans would pay \$4.50 to \$5.00 a day for semi-private and were limited to \$35.00 to \$50.00 for the entire stay. The Pioneer Mutual Hospitalization also known as the Youngstown Hospital Agency would pay \$6.00 a day for 42 days, \$10.00 for operating room, \$5.00 for anesthesia, laboratory and drugs and \$10.00 for x-ray. Hospitalization plans have come a long way since then.

New members that month were: Louis Bloomberg, John LaManna, Stewart Patton, Jr. and Marie Krupko.

### TWENTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1957

President Ondash said that Youngstown was behind the times not to have a full time, fully qualified Commissioner of Health under a proper board of control with a properly regulated health district.

Dr. John Heberding died. He was Youngstown's first Roentgenologist. He started as a general practitioner but pioneered in x-ray. At one time he was Roentgenologist for both of our hospitals. He trained Tamarkin and Baker and Ben Brown. His life was devoted to his work, he had no other interest. He was a staunch believer in the independence of professional men from hospital regulation. He left a firm imprint on the progress of roentgenology in this place.

New members that month were: Robert W. Parry, A. W. Geordan, Ben Conrad Berg, Salvatore Squicquero, L. F. Fagnano, Izydor Werbner and Gene D. Fry. All of them have enriched the medical scene in the past twenty years.

## TEN YEARS AGO — MARCH 1967

The Medical Society failed to complete important business because of lack of a quorum. Editor Saadi wrote that the Society showed signs of terminal illness.

President Reese wrote "Surely you can see that the Society is your sole bulwark against our common foes. It must be a great source of interest and satisfaction to them to see you slowly destroying yourselves."

1200 high school teenagers attended a meeting sponsored by the Society at Boardman High School where Dr. Saadi lectured and showed two films on heart surgery.

Jack Schreiber received the Freedom Foundation Award for his series of lectures on "The Last Candle".

New member that month was: B. Patrick Brucoli, pediatrician.

—J. L. F.

## SCHOLARSHIP DINNER NEXT MONTH

Preparations are under way for the 11th annual Scholarship Dinner of the Mahoning County Medical Society, which will be held on Thursday April 14, at Ramada Inn.

Dr. Gene Butcher, chairman, has announced that the awards dinner will continue to honor the top boy scholar and top girl scholar from the Senior class of each of the area's 25 high schools. Attending dinner, along with the student-guests, will be a number of doctors and their wives. Each student will receive a pin and certificate enrolling him in the Mahoning County Medical Society's Roster of Scholars for 1977.

A complete list of the students will be published in the April issue of the *Bulletin*.

## Classified Advertising

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**PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL****January 11, 1977**

The regular meeting of the Council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 1977, at the Youngstown Club.

Dr. Anderson, referring back to the treasurer's report, noted that an effort must be made to collect delinquent assessments in order that those members not be dropped from membership. He stated that he will write a personal letter to each delinquent member.

A letter was noted from the Ohio State Medical Association which acknowledged receipt of our letter supporting Stark County's request for a special session of OSMA House of Delegates for the purpose of restructuring PICO.

A letter was read from the Ohio State Medical Board stating that the fee paid by physicians for licensing went into the Ohio State General Fund and that money from the Fund was then allocated to the State Medical Board for operation. The motion was made by Dr. Melnick, and properly seconded, that a letter be sent to Sen. Harry Meshel asking how much money received from the physicians triennial registration fee goes into the general fund; how much money is allocated from the general fund to the Ohio State Medical Board; and how is the money spent by the Medical Board (itemized account). The motion was passed.

Dr. Tandatnick, constitution committee chairman, reported a proposed amendment to the by-laws that had been referred to his committee by council. In essence, the amendment would require a former member applying for reinstatement to pay one half of the total dues and assessments that accrued during his absence. The motion was made by Dr. Tandatnick, and properly seconded, that the amendment be accepted by council and brought before the Medical Society. The motion was made by Dr. Lambert, and properly seconded, that the wording be changed so that the reinstated member be required to pay only the accrued assessments. The amendment was passed. The amended motion was passed. The first reading will be made at the next Medical Society meeting.

Dr. Lambert presented a proposed amendment to the constitution, signed by 12 members, which would create the category of "Emeritus Membership." The motion was made by Dr. Lambert, and properly seconded, that the amendment be approved by council and brought before the Medical Society. Motion was passed. The first reading will be made at the next Medical Society meeting.

The motion was made by Dr. Perry, and properly seconded, that Council recommend to the Mahoning County Medical Society that the Society rescind the motion of Nov. 18, 1975, which increased the Physicians' Welfare Fund assessment from \$5 per year to \$25 per year. An amendment to establish the Fund at \$30,000 was defeated. An amendment to make the decreased payment effective for 1978 was passed. The motion was made by Dr. Schreiber, and properly seconded, to postpone definitely until the next council meeting following the report of the investment committee. The postponing motion was passed. The secretary was requested to produce the original motion that set-up the Physicians' Welfare Fund.

The motion was made by Dr. Melnick that a letter be sent to OSMA asking that the appropriate committee of that association inquire of the JUA why they are proposing an increase in malpractice premiums in view of the fact that they have approximately \$30 million in their treasury and have paid out no claims. Motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Pichette requested that a monthly notice be published in the *Bulletin* reminding members that they must accumulate 150 hours of continuing medical education prior to renewing their license in 1980.

Howard Rempes  
Executive Secretary

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

February 8, 1977

The regular meeting of the Council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1977, at the Youngstown Club.

Dr. Pichette, Sixth District Councilor, reported OSMA annual meeting dates to be May 15-18 and that resolutions must be in by March 15. He stated that PICO is doing well.

The following applications for membership were presented by the Censors:

ACTIVE: Hira L. Khanna, M.D.    ASSOCIATE: Ying Amorn, M.D.  
Sheldon C. Binder, M.D.  
Tahir Firdaus, M.D.  
Edward L. McIver, M.D.

The applications were approved. Applicants will become members of the Mahoning County Medical Society 15 days after publication in the *Bulletin*, unless objection is filed in writing with the secretary before that time.

A letter from OSMA was read informing us that not enough requests for a special meeting of the House of Delegates were received, so there will be no special meeting.

A letter from OSMA was read in answer to our request for information about the increase in JUA rates. The letter stated that JUA is not in a position to establish its own rates because it has not been in operation long enough, so it uses services of the Insurance Services Office. JUA receives an average of one new claim per each working day. Legislation is being considered for a "more reasonable" approach.

Dr. Wiltsie reported for the Hospital Relations Committee. The committee met to discuss the question of a physician being an active member of both hospital staffs if he so desired. Since this would require a change in by-laws of both hospital staffs, the question will be proposed to the Medical Executive Committee of each hospital. The motion was made, seconded and duly passed that the recommendations of the committee be accepted and implemented. A copy of the committee report is attached to the minutes.

The following motion, postponed from the last meeting, was again stated: That the Council recommend to the Mahoning County Medical Society that the Society rescind the motion of Nov. 18, 1975, which increased the Physicians' Welfare Fund assessment from \$5 per year to \$25 per year, effective with 1978 billing. Motion was passed. The motion will be presented to the general membership at the March 15th meeting.

A motion was made by Dr. Schreiber that the Medical Society send a second and third billing to those who have not paid AMA dues. Motion was passed.

Dr. Melnick called attention to a letter from Sen. Harry Meshel in answer to our inquiry. The figures showed the amount of money received from physicians' registration fees, which is deposited in the General Fund, to be approximately the same as the money allocated from the General Fund to the State Medical Board.

A motion was made by Dr. Lambert, and properly seconded, that the Constitution Committee be directed to review and suggest revisions for the MCMS Constitution and By-laws. Motion was passed.

Dr. Melnick read a resolution of recommendation to Dr. Kurt Wegner for chairing a number of immunization programs for the Medical Society in recent years, and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded and passed.

Howard Rempes  
Executive Secretary

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